



PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 0329-0055

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: )  
Frank Hofmann )  
Serial No.: 10/779,470 )  
Filed: February 13, 2004 )  
Examiner: Eric K. Nicholson )  
Art Unit: 3679 )  
For: MAGNETICALLY CONTROLLED ROD )  
ASSEMBLY )

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SIGNATURE: 

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, as revised on February 4, 1992, 1135 OG 23-24, Applicants hereby call the Examiner's attention to documents listed on the attached form, which documents may be material to the examination of this application.

No inference should be drawn that any apparatus disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. Also, the citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence. Citation of any document herein is not to be


the document is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Please note that Citation No. 17 is the International Search Report for the parent International application from which priority is claimed.

Applicants also respectfully reserve the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the present patent application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of a first Office Action. Accordingly, enclosed is the fee of \$180.00. If it is determined that any additional fee is required for this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50/1039.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Andrew G. Kolomayets  
Registration No. 33,723

COOK, ALEX, MCFARRON, MANZO,  
CUMMINGS & MEHLER, LTD.  
200 West Adams Street - #2850  
Chicago, IL 60606  
(312) 236-8500



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